

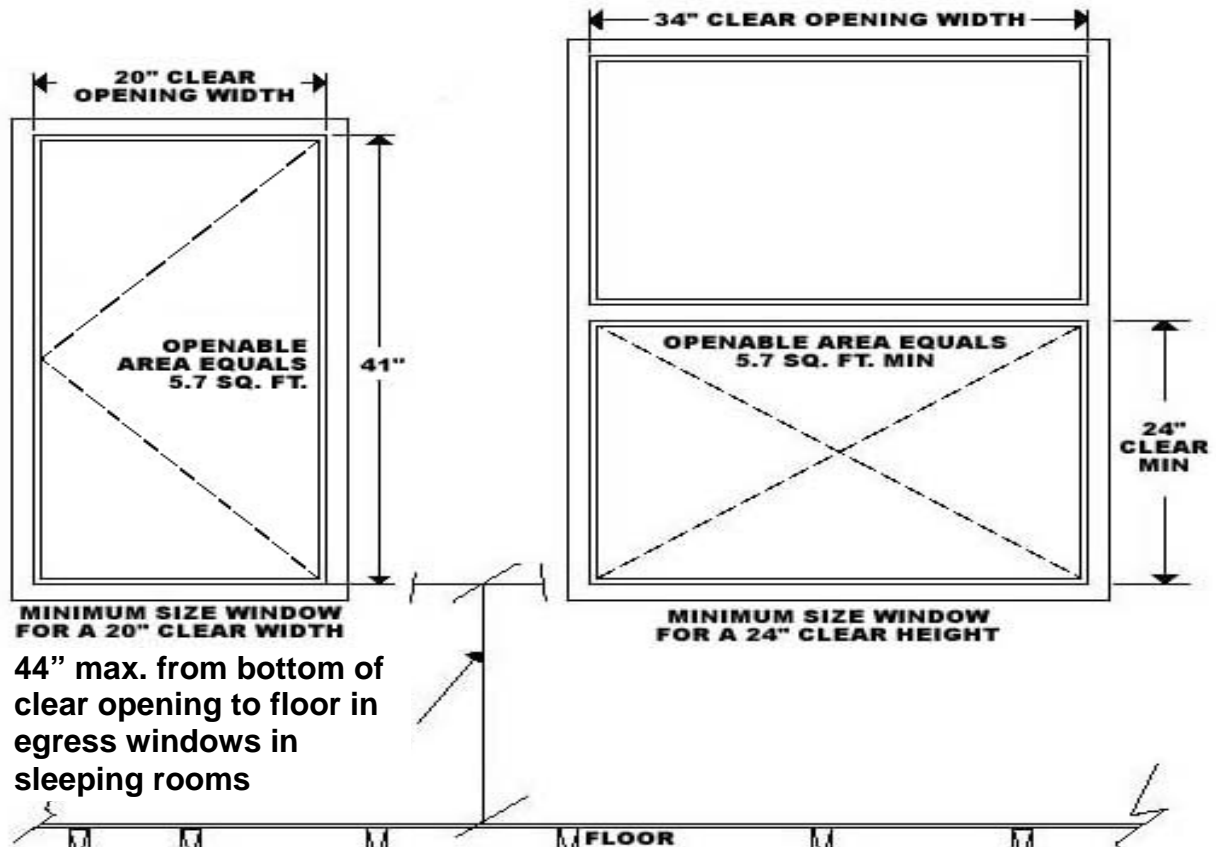


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Residential Egress Windows (2007 CBC) EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE



Because so many fire deaths occur when occupants of residential buildings are asleep at the time of a fire, the 2007 California Building Code (CBC), Section 1026 requires that:

- Basements in dwelling units and
- Every sleeping room below the fourth story

Shall have at least one operable window or exterior door opening approved for emergency escape and rescue. Such openings shall open directly into a public way or to a yard or court that opens to a public way.

- The net clear openable area shall be no less than 5.7 square feet (5 square feet for grade floor openings and basement window wells).
- In addition to the above requirement, the net clear openable height dimension shall be a minimum of 24 inches. The net clear openable width dimension shall be a minimum of 20 inches (Note: using both minimum figures will not obtain the required 5.7 square feet.)

The chart below summarizes the minimum window dimensions that will achieve a 5.7 square-foot opening.

Minimum Width/Height Requirements for Emergency Escape and Rescue Windows (inches)

Width	20	20.5	21	21.5	22	22.5	23	23.5	24	24.5	25	25.5	26	26.5	27
Height	41	40	39.1	38.2	37.3	36.5	35.7	34.9	34.2	33.5	32.8	32.2	31.6	31	30.4
Width	27.5	28	28.5	29	29.5	30	30.5	31	31.5	32	32.5	33	33.5	34	34.2
Height	29.8	29.3	28.8	28.3	27.8	27.4	26.9	26.5	26.1	25.7	25.3	24.9	24.5	24.1	24